

Discover and enjoy Baden-Baden

Route number 4 takes you through the old town to the thermal springs and bathing palaces



Other World Heritage walks:

- 1 Historic building culture in the Beutig mansion quarter
- 2 From guesthouse to grand hotel
- 3 Kurgarten & Michaelsberg promenading area
- 5 Mansion quarter in the suburb of Lichtental
- 6 Mansions around the Paradies

## Great Spas of Europe – Baden-Baden

### Summer capital & town of historic importance

The town owes its origin to the thermal springs on the southern slope of the Florentinerberg (today's Schlossberg), as reflected in the original name of the late Roman settlement here: Aquae. From 1306, records show that the hot springs were a royal prerogative. Around 1500, Baden-Baden was already offering twelve bathhouses and almost 400 bathing cabins. After extensive destruction in the Palatinate War of Succession in 1689, Baden-Baden was rediscovered as a spa town by the dignitaries attending the Second Congress of Rastatt in 1797-98. The Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71 and the German Empire's gambling ban in 1872 triggered another noticeable decline in Baden-Baden's development, leading the town to resort once again to its original bathing tradition. In the old town, in the immediate vicinity of the thermal springs, two grand bathing temples were built to meet the very latest of demands: the Friedrichsbad in 1869-77 and the Augustabad in 1893.

In the new Friedrichsbad "one may have any sort of bath that has been invented," noted Mark Twain shortly after its opening.

The old baths' quarter can also be found in the old town featuring the architectural remains of the ancient baths, the former Dampfbad (steam bath) built by Heinrich Hübsch in 1846-48, and the already mentioned Friedrichsbad.

With these assets, Baden-Baden belongs to a group of towns known as the Great Spas of Europe which is currently applying for recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Volkmar Eidloth, Baden-Württemberg State Office for the Preservation of Historical Monuments

By means of the World Heritage walks, Stadtbild Baden-Baden, a society that concerns itself with the town's urban landscape, invites you to discover more about its heritage

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Information on exclusive guided tours, half-day or full-day guides with certified tour guides from the Baden-Baden Convention & Visitors Bureau is available as follows:  
Telephone +49 (0) 7221 275 256 or sales@baden-baden.com

Texts on architectural monuments taken from the List of Cultural Monuments in Baden-Württemberg | Maps: Stadt Baden-Baden, Office for World Heritage  
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## Where everything began: the springs of the spa town of Baden-Baden

Old town alleyways, thermal springs and bathing palaces. Tracing the town map of 1889.

World Heritage walk. Route no. 4

A guide produced by Stadtbild Baden-Baden.



The entire town as a World Heritage Site  
Landscape, architecture, thermal water and health

Dear Friends of Baden-Baden,

The members of Stadtbild Baden-Baden have made it their business to promote the preservation, maintenance and development of Baden-Baden's urban landscape and to increase public awareness of these issues.

The former riches of the Bäderviertel (baths' quarter) was summarised in an assessment by the State Office for Cultural Heritage in 1993:

*Today, it is hard to imagine that up until the 1950s the Friedrichsbad was merely one of many key buildings that made up the town's Bäderviertel. The boundless expanse of today's Römerplatz provides only a hint as to how this quarter once looked when it included structures such as the Augustabad, the Fangobad, the Inhalatorium and the medieval hospital buildings, before the area's large-scale clearance in the post-war years.*

Subsequent structures have often lacked the necessary quality and therefore it is not surprising that despite its historic importance this area must be omitted from the World Heritage zone. That is why Stadtbild Baden-Baden launched an initiative to establish an architectural advisory committee, approved in 2010, to publically discuss and evaluate important new building projects and make recommendations for their implementation.

On this tour, discover an old town resurrected after its destruction in 1689 and a baths' quarter with 2000 years of history.

Further information:

[www.stadtbild-baden-baden.de](http://www.stadtbild-baden-baden.de)





**9 Burgstraße** with simple 18th-century dwellings. Pictured is a twin-axial loggia with rich neo-Renaissance design above a 19th-century cellar doorway. At the beginning, Haus Lobenstein, redesigned in 1860 with a two-storey arcade and Moorish-style corner towers on its town side, and a wooden upper floor.

**Schlossstraße** with the 'new chancellery', today a residential dwelling, side-gabled with half-hipped roof. A simply designed, attractive admin. building from the town's reconstruction post 1689. The 16th-century building behind was built against the town wall's downward slope over vaulted cellars from the 14th century.



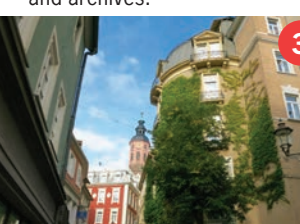
**7 Schlosstraße** with the collegiate church's provosty office. Winged building from c. 1730/40. Richly structured with colossal pilaster strips, an arched doorway flanked by pilasters and ashlar window surrounds. The most ambitious of the town's collegiate buildings with views onto Marktplatz, Hirschstraße and Schloßstraße.

**Hirschstraße** beginning with Bad-Hotel zum Hirsch. Well worth seeing is house no. 3 with the year 1709 at the top of the cellar doorway's arch. One of the few authentically preserved baroque buildings from early 18th century. Access to Hirschstraße above a high-ceilinged cellar, doorway in the narrow side with segmental-arch roof.



**5 Küferstraße** with historic-style buildings at upper end from around 1900 with sandstone cladding on ground floor and clinker brickwork on upper floors. Residential and craftsmen's houses from first half of 19th century at lower end. Neo-Renaissance-style houses at the Lange Straße junction from Gründerzeit era.

**Baldreit**, former bathhouse and hotel with 30 bathing cabins. Today's three-winged building with gable roof is predominantly 19th century. The courtyard's corner staircase features an 18th-century doorway. First mentioned in 1460. Poor people's bath from 1830-50. Today, a wine tavern and archives.

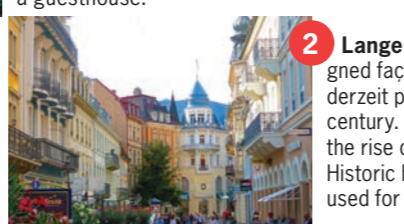
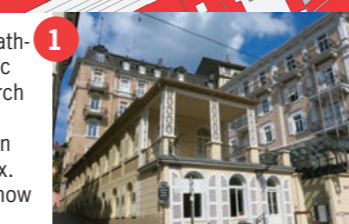


**3 Büttengasse**, starting with Haus Kindler (1890), a monumental Gründerzeit-style building on the corner with Lange Strasse. The row of 19th-century town houses forms a visual axis past the apse of the Jesuit church from 1856, now Darmstädter Hof, and house no. 6 from the 18th century to the collegiate church's tower.

**Old town tour from Jesuitenplatz:**  
Gernsbacherstr. – Lange Str. – Büttenstr. – Baldreit – Küferstr. – Langestr. – Hirschstr. – Schloßstr. – Burgstr. – Schlosskellerstr. – Schlossbergstr. – Stiftsgasse – Schlossstaffeln – Marktplatz

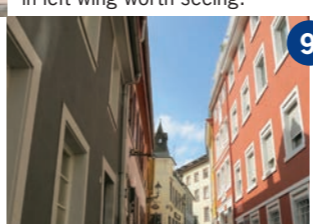
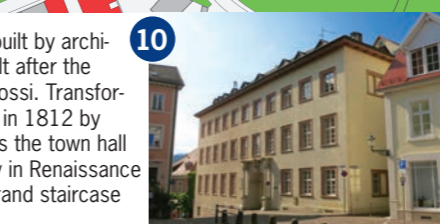


**Jesuitenplatz** with Darmstädter Hof, a bathhouse with assembly rooms built in historic style in 1856 on the site of the Jesuit church torn down in 1812. Additional floors were added to the wings by architect W. Vittali in 1894. Today, part of the town hall complex. The former Jesuit seminary from 1724 is now a guesthouse.



**2 Lange Straße** in part with elaborately designed façades from the Historicism and Gründerzeit periods at the middle/end of the 19th century. The earlier buildings disappeared with the rise of the spa town in the 19th century. Historic hosteleries and hotels are meanwhile used for residential and commercial purposes.

**Rathaus** former Jesuit college built by architect T. Camacios in 1674. Rebuilt after the 1689 town fire by architect D. Rossi. Transformed into the Conversationshaus in 1812 by architect F. Weinbrenner. Used as the town hall since 1862. Three-wing property in Renaissance style with baroque influences. Grand staircase in left wing worth seeing.



**9 Steinstraße**, connecting the Gernsbacher Tor gatehouse (demolished) and today's thermal baths' quarter to the old town. The modest 18th-century buildings, built over old vaulted cellars after the 1689 town fire, were extensively redesigned in the 19th century with some having floors added.

**Baths' tour from Marktplatz:**  
Emperor's baths – Altes Dampfbad – Springs – Römerplatz. –Caracalla spa – Seufzerallee – Amtshaus Roman baths – Friedrichsbad – Steinstr.– Conversationshaus – (Rathaus) – Jesuitenplatz



**Quellfassungen**, when the Friedrichsbad was built the catchment tunnels were re-laid and centralised in the area above the Dernfeldstaffel steps (2) and the Fettquelle thermal spring was directed into a rock grotto fountain next to the Friedrichsbad at Römerplatz (3). Today, the thermal water is no longer considered drinkable.

**1 Altes Dampfbad** built to the plans of H. Hübsch in 1846-48 and extended by L. Engesser in 1864. It was a bathhouse with individual cabins and lodging rooms that tapped water from the 'original spring'. Decorated with terracotta dressings it is the only bathhouse from the first half of the 19th century to have been preserved.



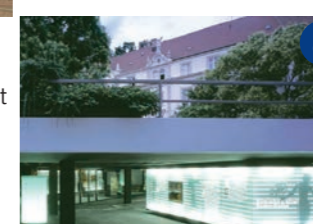
**4 Friedrichsbad**, built in 1869-77 to the plans of K. Dernfeld in neo-Renaissance style on the site of the Roman baths. A modern bathing palace in keeping with the demands and tastes of the time that is still fully functional today. Seen as a monumental symbol of Baden-Baden and its spa resort's world status.

**2** and **3** (captioned above) show the catchment tunnels and the Fettquelle thermal spring area.



**Caracalla-Therme**, built initially as a replacement building for the Augustabad (demolished 1962) on the site of the medieval Augustabad and Armenbad (hospital and poor people's baths). The early 20th-century Fangobad and Inhalatorium were also torn down. Top floor removed during its expansion/remodelling to modern thermal baths in 1985.

**5 Spitalkirche**, first mentioned 1351, replaced in 1468 by a new hospital church. Only the choir survived the 1689 town fire. Rebuilt mid-18th century, now all that remains of the medieval hospital complex. Nave shorted when the Augustabad's replacement was built. Alongside a 15th-century, red sandstone Mount of Olives sculpture from old graveyard.



**8 Soldatenbäder**, beneath the Friedrichsbad further downhill from the emperor's baths at Marktplatz, with a hot bath, warm air bath, steam bath and swimming baths. The so-called hypocaust system with its wall and underfloor heating can be viewed behind large glass screens.

**7 Amtshaus** and old police station built in 1842-43 by F. T. Fischer. A well-proportioned, solitary structure with Tuscan palace design and decorated with ancient and gothic elements. Its demolition was prevented in 1976 yet its conversion and extension to a medical centre has distorted its original impression.